

## SCOOP July Special Edition

### SEPTEMBER 2008 DEADLINES ANNOUNCED – IMPORTANT!!!

The enactment of the Food Conservation and Energy Act of 2008 (2008 Act), Pub L. 110-246 created five new Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance Programs. To be eligible for benefits, four of these programs require producers to meet the Risk Management Purchase Requirement which requires producers to purchase and or buy-into the Federal Crop Insurance or Noninsured Disaster Assistance (NAP) Programs as described below. ***The deadlines are quickly approaching.***

**Note:** Producers who meet the requirements of a Socially Disadvantaged, Limited Resource, and or Beginning Farmers or Ranchers do NOT have to meet this Risk Management Purchase Requirement.

Disaster Programs	Federal Crop Insurance and NAP Requirements
Supplemental Revenue Assistance Payments (SURE) Program	The producer must have Federal Crop Insurance or NAP coverage on all crop acreage, in all counties, that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest. This includes but is not limited to crops for grain, hay, grazing, seed, aquaculture, sod, fresh market, processed market, juice market, and honey.
Livestock Forage Disaster Program (LFP)	For grazing land only
Livestock Indemnity Program (LIP)	None required
Tree Assistance Program (TAP)	The producer must have Federal Crop Insurance or NAP coverage on all crop acreage, in all counties, that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest. This includes but is not limited to crops for grain, hay, grazing, seed, aquaculture, sod, fresh market, processed market, juice market, and honey.
Emergency Assistance for Livestock, Honey Bees, and Farm-Raised Fish (EALHF)	The producer must have Federal Crop Insurance or NAP coverage on all crop acreage, in all counties, that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest. This includes but is not limited to crops for grain, hay, grazing, seed, aquaculture, sod, fresh market, processed market, juice market, and honey.

**2008 Federal Crop Insurance and NAP Requirements:**

For 2008, the sales closing date for all crops in Arkansas has passed for both the Federal Crop Insurance and NAP Programs. However, because of the late passage of the Farm Bill in respect to the 2008 crop, a special waiver has been granted to allow farm producers the opportunity to pay a buy-in fee of \$100.00 per crop to meet insurance requirement. ***The deadline to pay the buy-in fee is September 16, 2008. Note: Paying of the buy-in fee does NOT allow coverage in the Federal Crop Insurance or NAP programs.*** The 2008 Buy-in fees shall be paid in your local FSA office for both Federal Crop Insurance and NAP crops. The maximum fees a producer will be required to pay is \$300.00 per county for Federal Crop Insurance crops and \$300.00 per county for NAP crops. A producer's maximum for all counties for Federal Crop Insurance is \$900.00 and for NAP is \$900. A \$100.00 credit is given toward the maximum fee for crops that were timely insured with Federal Crop Insurance and NAP. Producers will also be required to complete the applicable buy forms.

**2009 Federal Crop Insurance and NAP Requirements:**

For 2009, the sales closing date for Federal Crop Insurance and the application closing date for NAP has not passed for any crop in Arkansas; therefore, a buy-in option will NOT be available meaning, ***producers must purchase the Federal Crop Insurance Coverage and or NAP coverage before the Sales Closing or Application date. The first application closing date is September 1, 2008.*** Producers shall reference the attached chart for a list of crops and the closing dates. Producers must insure crops that are covered with Federal Crop Insurance at a level not less than 50 percent yield coverage at 55 percent of the insurable price at an agent of their choice. Producers shall obtain NAP coverage by completing an application and paying the applicable fees at their respective FSA offices. NAP covers the amount of loss greater than 50 percent of the expected production based on the approved yield and reported acreage.

## **The Five New Disaster Programs**

Below is an overview of each of the five new disaster programs. FSA is working hard to work on the provisions enacted with the 2008 Act. We will continue to update you on information as it becomes available.

### **SUPPLEMENTAL AGRICULTURAL DISASTER ASSISTANCE (SURE) PROGRAM**

**Basic Provisions:**

The Supplemental Agricultural Disaster Assistance (SURE) Program will be available to eligible producer on:

- Farms in disaster counties, including contiguous counties that have a Secretarial declaration for crop production losses and/or crop quality losses during the crop year.

- Any farm in which, during the calendar year, the total loss of production of the farm because of weather is greater than 50 percent of the normal production of the farm.

In general, “farm” means the sum of all crop acreage in all counties that is planted or intended to be planted for harvest by the eligible producer.

At a **minimum**, to be eligible for the SURE Program, the producer **must** have purchased or be enrolled in the following, for each:

- Insurable crop on the farm, a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act
- Non insurable commodity on the farm, filed the required paperwork and paid the Assistance fee by the applicable State deadline, for the noninsured crop assistance Program.

**Note:** For 2008, producers who do **not** meet this requirement may have this provision waived if the producers pay a fee in an amount applicable to the noninsured crop disaster assistance program fee or catastrophic risk protection plan fee by no later than *September 16, 2008*.

#### **Payments:**

Payments will be issued to an eligible producer in an amount equal to 60 percent of the difference between the disaster assistance program guarantee and total farm revenue.

#### **Disaster Assistance Program Guarantee:**

The disaster assistance **program guarantee** shall be the sum obtained by adding the following, for each:

- **insurable crop** on the farm, 115 percent of the product obtained by multiplying the:
  - crop insurance price election for the crop
  - acres planted or prevented from being planted to the crop
  - percentage of the crop insurance yield elected by the producer by the higher of the adjusted APH or the counter-cyclical program payment yield.
- **non-insurable crop** on the farm, 120 percent of the product obtained by multiplying:
  - 100 percent of the NAP program established price for the crop
  - the acres planted or prevented from being planted to the crop
  - the higher of the adjusted NAP program yield guarantee or the counter-cyclical program payment yield.

#### **Total Farm Revenue:**

Total farm revenue for a farm shall be the sum obtained by adding the following:

- the estimated actual value of each crop produced on a farm by the product obtained by multiplying the:
  - actual crop acreage harvested
  - estimated actual yield
  - national average market price for the marketing year for each crop
- 15 percent of any direct payments issued
- the total amount of all counter-cyclical or average crop revenue payments

- the total amount of all marketing loan proceeds (including certificate gains)
- the total amount of all crop insurance or NAP indemnities
- the value of any other natural disaster assistance payments for the same loss.

## **LIVESTOCK FORAGE DISASTER PROGRAM (LFP)**

### **Basic Provisions:**

LFP will be available to eligible livestock producers who suffered grazing losses for eligible livestock because of:

- drought, on land that is either of the following:
  - native or improved pastureland with permanent vegetative cover
  - planted to a crop specifically for providing grazing
- fire, on rangeland managed by a Federal agency if the eligible livestock producer is prohibited from grazing the normal permitted livestock on the managed rangeland.

To be eligible for LFP, the producer **must** have purchased or obtained the following for the grazing land incurring the losses for which assistance is being requested:

- a policy or plan of insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act, including pilot programs such as the Pasture, Rangeland, Forage Program
- NAP coverage by filing the required paperwork, and paying the administrative fee by the applicable State filing deadline.

**Note:** An eligible livestock producer that suffered 2008 calendar year grazing losses on grazing land and did not meet this requirement may have this provision waived if the producer pays a fee in an amount applicable to the noninsured crop disaster assistance program fee or catastrophic risk protection plan fee by no later than **September 16, 2008**.

### **Payments:**

An eligible livestock producer that suffers a grazing loss because of drought on owned or leased grazing land or pastureland that is physically located in a county that is rated by the U.S. Drought Monitor as having either of the following:

- a D2 (severe drought) intensity in any area of the county for at least 8 consecutive weeks during the normal grazing period for that county, will be eligible to receive a payment equal to 1 monthly payment
- at least a D3 (extreme drought) intensity in any area of the county
  - at any time during the normal grazing period for that county, will be eligible to receive a payment equal to 2 monthly payments
  - for at least 4 weeks during the normal grazing period for that county, or a D4 (exceptional drought) intensity in any area of the county during the normal grazing period for that county will be eligible to receive a payment equal to 3 monthly payments.

An eligible livestock producer that suffers grazing losses because of fire on rangeland that is managed by a Federal agency, and the Federal agency prohibits the eligible

livestock producer from grazing the normal permitted livestock on the managed rangeland, will receive a payment equal to 50 percent of the monthly feed cost for the total number of livestock covered by the Federal lease. The eligible livestock producer shall **not** receive payments on more than 180 calendar days per year.

### **LIVESTOCK INDEMNITY PROGRAM (LIP)**

#### **Basic Provisions:**

LIP will be available to eligible livestock producers on farms that have incurred livestock death losses in excess of normal mortality because of adverse weather, as determined by the Secretary during the calendar year, including losses because of hurricanes, floods, blizzards, disease, wildfires, extreme heat, and extreme cold.

#### **Payments:**

LIP payments to eligible livestock producers will be based on:

- 75 percent of a fair market value, as determined by the Secretary, for each specific livestock category
- individual producers' eligible losses.

**Note:** No State, county, or other trigger will be used to define an eligible LIP area.

### **TREE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (TAP)**

#### **Basic Provisions:**

TAP is reauthorized, subject to funds being appropriated, to provide assistance to orchardists and eligible nursery tree growers who produce nursery, ornamental, fruit, nut, or Christmas trees for commercial sale that lost trees because of a natural disaster as determined by the Secretary.

#### **Reimbursement:**

TAP will be provided to producers who lost trees in excess of 15 percent mortality (adjusted for normal mortality). Producers will be reimbursed for 70 percent of the cost of replanting trees and 50 percent of the cost of pruning, removal, and other costs incurred for salvaging trees.

### **EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE FOR LIVESTOCK, HONEY BEES, AND FARM-RAISED FISH (EALHF) Program**

#### **Basic Provisions**

The EALHF Program will provide emergency relief to producers of livestock (including horses), honey bees, and farm-raised fish because of losses from adverse weather or other conditions, such as blizzards and wildfires, as determined by the Secretary.

## Program Coverage

The EALHF Program is intended to cover disasters that are **not** adequately covered by any other disaster program.

## 2009 NAP Application Closing Dates & 2009 CAT Sales Closing Dates

### Annual Crops

Crop	Intended Use	Application Closing Date
Aquaculture		09/01/08
Christmas Trees		09/01/08
Ginseng Root		09/01/08
Ornamental Nursery		09/01/08
Turfgrass Sod		09/01/08
Oats	GR	09/30/08
Wheat	GR	09/30/08
Apples	FH	11/20/08
Asparagus	FH	11/20/08
Blueberries	FH	11/20/08
Caneberries	FH	11/20/08
Figs	FH	11/20/08
Grapes	FH	11/20/08
Peaches	FH	11/20/08
Pears	FH	11/20/08
Honey		12/01/08
Broccoli	FH	01/01/09
Cabbage (S&F)	FH	01/01/09
Carrots	FH	01/01/09
Greens (S&F)	FH	01/01/09
Onions	FH	01/01/09
Pecans		01/01/09
Potatoes (S&F)	FH	01/01/09
Beans (S&F)	FH	02/28/09
Cantaloupes	FH	02/28/09
Corn	GR	02/28/09
Corn, Sweet	FH	02/28/09
Cotton		02/28/09
Cucumbers (S&F)	FH	02/28/09
Eggplant	FH	02/28/09
Grain Sorghum	GR	02/28/09
Lettuce	FH	02/28/09
Okra	FH	02/28/09
Peanuts		02/28/09
Peas (S&F)	FH	02/28/09
Peppers	FH	02/28/09
Pumpkins	FH	02/28/09

### Grazing and Forage

Crop	Intended Use	Application Closing Date
Barley	GZ	09/30/08
Barley	GZ	09/30/08
Barley	FG	09/30/08
Barley	FG	09/30/08
Oats	GZ	09/30/08
Oats	GZ	09/30/08
Oats	FG	09/30/08
Oats	FG	09/30/08
Rye	GZ	09/30/08
Rye	FG	09/30/08
Wheat	GZ	09/30/08
Wheat	FG	09/30/08
Alfalfa	GZ	12/01/08
Alfalfa	FG	12/01/08
Bahia	GZ	12/01/08
Bahia	FG	12/01/08
Bermuda Coastal	GZ	12/01/08
Bermuda Coastal	FG	12/01/08
Bermuda Common	GZ	12/01/08
Bermuda Common	FG	12/01/08
Bermuda Hybrid	GZ	12/01/08
Bermuda Hybrid	FG	12/01/08
Bluestem Old World	GZ	12/01/08
Bluestem Old World	FG	12/01/08
Fescue Red	GZ	12/01/08
Fescue Red	FG	12/01/08
Fescue Tall	GZ	12/01/08
Fescue Tall	FG	12/01/08
Fescue Tall	SD	12/01/08
Lovegrass	GZ	12/01/08
Lovegrass	FG	12/01/08
Mixed Forage	GZ	12/01/08
Mixed Forage	FG	12/01/08
Native Interseeded	GZ	12/01/08
Native Interseeded	FG	12/01/08
Orchard Grass	GZ	12/01/08
Orchard Grass	FG	12/01/08

Rice	GR	02/28/09
Soybeans	GR	02/28/09
Squash (S&F)	FH	02/28/09
Strawberries	FH	02/28/09
Sugarcane	FH	02/28/09
Sunflowers		02/28/09
Sweet Potatoes	FH	02/28/09
Watermelons	FH	02/28/09
Tomatoes (S&F)	FH	03/15/09

S&F = Spring and Fall  
Plantings

Rye, Annual	GZ	12/01/08
Rye, Annual	FG	12/01/08
Sm. Grain/Interseeded	GZ	12/01/08
Sm. Grain/Interseeded	FG	12/01/08
Sudangrass	GZ	12/01/08
Sudangrass	FG	12/01/08
Corn	FG	02/28/09
Millet	FG	02/28/09
Sorghum	FG	02/28/09

### OTHER PROGRAM DEADLINES

Final date to request a reconstitution on a DCP farm	August 1, 2008
Final date to report spring-seeded crops except NAP Crops	August 15, 2008
Final Date for 2008 DCP Signup	September 30, 2008